

ELECTION 2020

THE NATION WAITS

TRUMP AND BIDEN STILL HOLD ON TO HOPE WITH BATTLEGROUND STATES



ALEX BRANDON/AP

TURNOUT

Locals shatter records with 'sense of hope'

BY JAVONTE ANDERSON,
LAURA RODRÍGUEZ
PRESA, HAL DARDICK,
SHANNON RYAN
AND KELLI SMITH

Long before sunrise Tuesday morning, Nakiea Love headed to the United Center after a sleepless night in her South Side home.

Armed with a Dunkin' Donuts iced coffee and a determination to have her voice heard, she sat alone outside the stadium — one of two super sites in Chicago where anyone could vote regardless of assigned polling place — and waited for the doors to open. She said she could not remember a more important election in her lifetime.

"It's just been a lot," she said. "It's been a lot going on. I think it's been a lot of issues that need to be addressed."

In the face of a crippling pandemic and months of social unrest, Chicago-area

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BALLOT QUESTION

After millions spent, tax's fate still unknown

BY RICK PEARSON

Illinois voters on Tuesday got their say on a far-reaching ballot question about the future of the state income tax following millions of dollars in TV ads bankrolled by battling billionaires Gov. J.B. Pritzker and hedge fund owner Ken Griffin.

More than \$124 million was raised by groups for and against a proposed change to the Illinois Constitution that would switch the state from a flat-rate income tax to a graduated-rate system in which taxes would increase as income rises.

After all that, the fate of the "yes or no" referendum might remain unknown for days or weeks as late-arriving mail-in votes continue to be counted. That's because there are two ways the proposal can pass: It needs either 60% support among those voting directly on the question or more than 50% support of those voting

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Slim margins separate Biden, Trump



ANGELA WEISS/GETTY-AFP



SAUL LOEB/GETTY-AFP

A record-breaking number of early votes were cast prior to Tuesday to decide between candidate Joe Biden, left, and President Donald Trump.

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE,
ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN
AND ALEXANDRA JAFFE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump won Florida, the nation's most prized battleground state, as he and Democrat Joe Biden on Tuesday battled to the finish of an epic campaign that will shape America's response to the surging pandemic and foundational questions of economic fairness and racial justice.

The two men were locked in tight races across the country, with Trump also claiming the battlegrounds of Ohio and Iowa while Biden won Minnesota and New Hampshire, two modest prizes the president had hoped to steal.

Races were too early to call in Georgia, Michigan, North Car-

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MORE COVERAGE

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■ Freshmen U.S. Reps. Underwood and Casten look to hold on to districts they flipped for Dems. **Page 3**

■ Battle tightens for Senate control as GOP win battleground races; McConnell, Graham prevail. **Page 14**



\$2.50 city and suburbs, \$3.00 elsewhere
173rd year No. 309 © Chicago Tribune

Weather Center: High 72, Low 50
Forecast on back page of A+E section